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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 03495-0190-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Daniel LADANT et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 1645 |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: 09/555,649 |) | Examiner: Zeman, R. |
| |) | |
| International Filing Date: |) | |
| December 4, 1998 |) | |
| |) | |
| 35 U.S.C. § 371 Filing Date: |) | |
| August 1, 2000 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: A BACTERIAL MULTI-HYBRID |) | |
| SYSTEM AND APPLICATIONS |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action mailed December 31, 2003, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper,
beginning on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper, beginning on
page 11.